

BROAD-BASED CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY

Broad-based categorical eligibility refers to the policy that makes most, if not all, households categorically eligible for SNAP because they receive a non-cash TANF/MOE funded benefit or service, such as an informational pamphlet or 800-number. The below chart describes which State agencies implemented broad-based categorical eligibility, what TANF program they used to confer categorical eligibility, the asset limit of the TANF program, and the gross income limit of the TANF Program. Broad-based categorical eligibility cannot limit eligibility; it does not impose a SNAP gross income limit on seniors and disabled households. Households with seniors or disabled members who are not eligible for the TANF program used to confer categorical eligibility may receive SNAP under regular program rules. Households with elderly or disabled members need only meet the net income limit under regular SNAP rules.

STATE AGENCIES (34)	TANF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	TANF PROGRAM ASSET LIMIT	GROSS INCOME LIMIT OF TANF PROGRAM (% OF FPG) ¹
Alabama	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets ²	130%
Arizona	All households are eligible (referral to website on application)	No limit on assets	185%
California	Only households with children under 18 are eligible (pamphlet)	No limit on assets	130%
Connecticut	All households (Help for People in Need (HFPIN): mailed an information and referral brochure at time of grant and at recertification.)	No limit on assets	185%
Delaware	All households are eligible (statement on application referring to pregnancy prevention hotline)	No limit on assets	200%
District of Columbia	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets	200%
Georgia	All households are eligible (TANF Community Outreach Services; brochures)	No limit on assets ²	130%
Guam	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets	165%
Idaho	All households are eligible (flyer regarding hotline with referrals an info on services)	No limit on assets	130%

¹ This column represents the gross income limit for the TANF-funded benefit for households with no elderly or disabled members.

² In these states households with seniors or people with disabilities and gross income under 200 percent of poverty do not face an asset limit. Those over 200 percent of poverty are not categorically eligible and do face a \$3,000 asset limit.

STATE AGENCIES (34)	TANF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	TANF PROGRAM ASSET LIMIT	GROSS INCOME LIMIT OF TANF PROGRAM (% OF FPG) ¹
Illinois	All households (guide to services brochure)	No limit on assets ²	130%
Maine	Only households with children under 18 or 18 and full time high school student are eligible (resource guide)	No limit on assets	185%
Maryland	Only households that include related children age 17 or younger or a related child age 18 or 19 who will graduate from high school by 19 are eligible (referral to services on application)	No limit on assets	200%
Massachusetts	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets	200%
Michigan	All households (Domestic Violence brochure)	No limit on assets	200%
Minnesota	All households are eligible (Domestic Violence brochure)	Asset limit of \$7,000 (all vehicles exempt)	130%
Montana	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets	185%
Nevada	All households are eligible (application contains information on teen parenting, teen pregnancy prevention)	No limit on assets	130%
New Hampshire	Households with at least one dependent child (brochure)	No limit on assets	185%
New Mexico	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets	165%
New Jersey	All households are eligible (brochure)	No limit on assets	185%
New York	All households are eligible (brochure mailed yearly)	No limit on assets ²	130%
North Dakota	All households are eligible (Statement on application/ recertification forms and pamphlet)	No limit on assets	200%
Ohio	All households (Ohio Benefit Bank phone number and website provided on approval notice)	No limit on assets ²	130%
Oklahoma	All households (certification notice has website & 800-number about marriage classes)	No limit on assets	130%
Oregon	All households (pamphlet)	No limit on assets	185%
Pennsylvania	All households (pamphlet)	No limit on assets ²	160%

STATE AGENCIES (34)	TANF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	TANF PROGRAM ASSET LIMIT	GROSS INCOME LIMIT OF TANF PROGRAM (% OF FPG)¹
Rhode Island	All households (publication)	No limit on assets ²	185%
South Carolina	All households (pamphlet)	No limit on assets ²	130%
Texas	All households (Info on various services provided on application)	Asset limit of \$5,000 (excludes 1 vehicle & includes excess vehicle value)	165%
Vermont	All households (bookmark with telephone number and website for services)	No limit on assets	185%
Virgin Islands	All households (brochure)	No limit on assets ²	130%
Washington	Non-assistance households (Info & Referral Services website provided on approval letter)	No limit on assets	200%
West Virginia	All households (Information and Referral Services program brochure)	No limit on assets	130%
Wisconsin	All households (Job Net Services language on approval and change notices)	No limit on assets	200%

Last updated: 5/13/10